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Chapter 1

Breezepelt sat quietly next to his father Crowfeather. He shivered as rain pounded down on him. The bushes and thickets all had cats in them. He growled As Crowfeather snuggled more closely to Nightcloud. There wasn't enough room in the bush to get beside Crowfeather so Breezepelt sat hunched over, shivering in the rain. Riverclan was not bothered by the rain so they stayed in the open. Thunderclan stood huddled under a tree, their eyes narrowed. Breezepelt bristled, he hated them all. The only allies he had were the trainers in the dark forest, but he knew he could trust Ivypool, and Tigerheart though. Especially Ivypool, she was a great fighter, and she lunged at the chance to weaken the opponent. Breezepelt felt a warm glow in his chest at the thought of her.

With an inpatient flick of her tail, Nightcloud muttered loud enough for all to hear"why are we always waiting on Shadowclan? We should start without them".
Mistystar stepped out from the group of huddled Riverclan cats, raising her voice to speak;" If we wait a while longer maybe they'll come". Firestar padded to the middle of the clearing, agreeing; "yes, we cannot start without them".
A few cats murmured in annoyance, but said nothing. Breezepelt hissed and said "since when did we need them?" And clenched his teeth. *The mouse-brained lizard eaters don't deserve for us to wait on them!* He thought.
Crowfeather growled "silence! Do not speak out of turn!". Breezepelt only rolled his eyes. The Windclan Leader, OneStar, held his head high, his short fur soaked through, yowled "They are here!". Breezepelt wrinkled his nose, as the scent of pine trees and frogs filled his nose.

Blackstar and his clan,without a single word, raced into the clearing, and Blackstar didn't even settle in his usual spot before he announced: "Let the gathering begin!".

Chapter 2

Russetfur, the Shadowclan deputy glared at the Thunderclan cats before settling down on a branch near Blackstar. Firestar,Onestar, and Mistystar jumped onto the Tall Oak. Breezepelt narrowed his eyes at Ashfoot. He was the one who should be deputy, not her. Breezepelt ran his eyes over the trees where Thunderclan stood, searching for a familiar face. His eyes landed on Lionblaze and his mouse-brain for a sister Hollyleaf. Hollyleaf sat next to Cloudtail and Brackenfur while Lionblaze sat next to Cinderheart, their pelts close together. Breezepelt sneered as he came upon the blind eyes of Jayfeather. Breezepelt had to admit that Jayfeather could've become a great warrior if Tigerclaw had gotten to train him. If only stupid Leafpool hadn't made him a medicine cat, What a waste.

Firestar raised his tail, signaling he would be talking first " Thunderclan is thriving, the prey is running well and the nights are peaceful".
Breezepelt scoffed " yeah right". Firestar turned to glared at him, but his gaze softened as he took in the situation Breezepelt was in . Left out and in the rain, by his own parents. Blackstar spoke up " I would like to speak now" his tone set. Breezepelt felt his neck hair rise, As the Shadowclan leader growled " Windclan has been stealing food from our territory". Instantly yowls of protest came form Windclan. Breezepelt hissed *what*?!!? *I'd always thought Shadowclan was mouse-brained but not like this!*.

" Of course Shadowclan would lie, they can't even tell which scent is which, because no Windclan cat would set a paw into Shadowclan territory!" Onestar objected. Blackstar whipped around to face Onestar who was obscured by the leaves of the tree. " We have proof! Tons of it! And I don't care if it might just be one cat, or a patrol, or a group of apprentices! I want no one from your clan on our territory, or else!" He yowled.

Windclan and Shadowclan flowed out of the bushes to confront one another. Breezepelt bristled " we didn't steal any of your stupid prey! And your not the boss of us!" Breezepelt growled. Toadfoot, a dark brown tom, unsheathed his claws " I was on a patrol,and I

swear I saw one of you there running away with a frog in its jaws!". Breezepelt crouched and Lashed his tail confronting the Shadowclan warrior " you no good Fox-dung eater! Do you think Windclan would want any of the slop you call prey?".
While they were bickering, Wind lashed at the trees, the rain started to pour down harder and a small cloud started to cover the moon. Breezepelt wasn't sure if they should stop or not. Distracted, Breezepelt felt something knock into his side. Breezepelt felt the air escape from his lungs, as he landed on his back. Breezepelt tried scrambled up but yowled as something raked thorn sharp claws over his stomach. Breezepelt, out of breath, tried to make a quick slash, but it missed its target. " Get off of him!" He heard a voice yowl. He felt the weight on him lift, as a beautiful silver and white tabby she cat with dark blue eyes, ram into his attacker. His savior was Ivypool. Ivypool raked her claws over Toadfoots muzzle and leapt off.

"ENOUGH! THIS GATHERING IS OVER!!" A voice boomed. Breezepelt scrambled to his paws in shock as he watched the usually calm and collected Mistystar raise her voice over the storm. Breezepelt winced at the scratches on his belly. Ivypool padded over and leaned in and some of her fur brushed against his "you ok?" Breezepelt nodded " yes" and uncontrollably he purred. Good thing it was quiet.

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The clans started to mill out of the clearing. Shadowclan and Windclan glaring at each other all the while.
Even though the gathering was cut short, he knew ShadowClan would somehow try to cause more trouble. Breezepelt sniffed as Crowfeather padded over to look at him. He looked disappointed and angry. Crowfeather hissed and cuffed Breezepelt over the ear. "Are you mouse-brained? If you want to be my son, then act like one!!" He snapped.

Chapter 3

Breezepelt felt anger swell into his chest. He wanted to be loved, to someday have his father be *proud*, of his existence. Though Breezepelt knew that Crowfeather hated him, and that he loved his old thunderclan kits, Lionblaze, Jayfeather, and Hollyleaf more than him.

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When they arrived at camp, Breezepelt stopped to take a deep breath. Owlwhisker and his apprentice padded past. All of the Warriors except for Breezepelt trudged into the Warriors den sleepily. Kestrelflight, Breezepelt could see, was sorting herbs while munching on a small rabbit. Breezepelt looked up to see Onestar padding into his den and resting. Whitetail and Harespring sat to guard the entrance. Breezepelt sighed in content at the memory of Ivypool. Leaning in so close.... "Hey Breezepelt what are you doing? Unless you prefer to sleep outside and get your fur get blown off by this wind I suggest you'd come inside" a she-cat purred. It was Heathertail! Breezepelt scowled " How dare Shadowclan accuse us?". Heather tail frowned, she stalked over to him her eyes piercing his "their mouse-brains, and desperate enough to have an excuse to take our territory" she sniffed " were you paying attention at all? Their ribs were showing through there pelts!". Breezepelt shook his head and brushed past Heathertail. *Seems like Blackstar isn't fulfilling his duty as leader.* Breezepelt leapt over the slumbering bodies of his clanmates and settled down in his nest next to Emberfoot and Sedgewhisker. That's when the strange dream occurred.

Chapter 4

Breezepelt was in the middle of the moor far away from camp. He gaped shocked as to how he'd gotten there. Wasn't he in his nest? Hadn't he just come from a gathering? The wind was gentle, though Breezepelt remembered that it was rough when he had gotten into camp. *What in the name of Starclan is going on?* As though to answer his question a toms voice answered " Your in Starclan, not in the Dark forest, though that is another conversation we'll have later". Breezepelt whirled around. Tallstar, a black and white Tom stood before him. Breezepelt vaguely recalled Tallstar, pleading and showing weakness in the journey in front of all the clans. Though now, Tallstar stood straight and rigid, authority showing in his eyes, muscles showing beneath his pelt. " Breezepelt, I must tell you something of great urgency and I can only say this once as I don't have much time left before I fade" he mewed quickly. *Fade? What was going on? What did that mean?* Breezepelt watched as Tallstar drew himself up to speak his long tail whisking back and forth.

"*You will become great, but will fall hard, food will replenish, but your clanmates will weaken, seek the ones who have light inside of them, and distinguish the ones that don't, or the clans will perish from the inside."*

Tallstar raised his head and let out a loud wail. All of a sudden, The screeching and writhing of dying cats filled the moor. The sky darkened to a red abyss of nothing, and Breezepelt crouched in fear, his fur rising and his claws unsheathing. The fighting cats wails rose up to a loud caterwaul, until Breezepelt could bear it no longer. He turned to run, but *something* held him back. He felt something sticky pool at his paws, a metallic smell wafting up to slap him in the face. Breezepelt didn't have to look to know that it was Windclan cat blood. It started to stick to his pelt and rise, engulfing him into the horrid nightmare. Breezepelt thrashed and tried to free himself but something held him down.

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" Breezepelt!!" His name echoed in his ears " Breezepelt!!". He woke up.

Chapter 5

"Breezepelt! mouse-brain!, The clan is hungry and the hunting patrol is getting restless! LETS GO!" a voice shouted into his ear.

Breezepelt opened his eyes abruptly. Standing over him was a furious Crowfeather. Breezepelt, shaken from the dream,blinked in confusion "huh?" Was all he could mutter. Crowfeather hissed and unsheathed his claws, he unexpectedly gave a sharp swipe to Breezepelts ear. Breezepelt winced as something warm dripped from his ear. He leaped out of his nest, purposely swatting at Crowfeather with his tail.

Anger swelled in his chest, why did his father have to be so cruel?. Outside, cats surrounded the fresh kill pile, and When Breezepelt made to walk pass them, every cat turned to glare at him. Owlwisker, who was sitting beside Tornear padded up to him " every cat has a duty, and Rabbits don't catch themselves YOU SAD excuse for A warrior!" Owlwhisker spat. Something bumped into to Breezepelt, making him stumble before he could make a sharp reply. " Come on!, lazy kit! lets go!". It was Crowfeather. Breezepelt hissed, annoyed " I'm no kit I'm a warrior!" , Crowfeather whirled around to confront him " then act like it! I'm never going to respect you until you die and maybe not even then! Your not my kit! My real kits are in thunderclan! Fighting away and risking there lives like true warriors! I will NEVER love you and that's a promise".

Breezepelt ran after the rabbit that streaked down the moor, its tail bobbing in Breezepelts face mockingly. The rabbit turned, trying to make a break towards its hole. Big mistake. Breezepelt cut it off, and pounced on its back giving it multiple and fierce swipes to it neck. It fell limp with a shriek of pain. Breezepelt plopped onto the ground and breathed hard. Not from tiredness but from hurt and

stress. It was his duty to fufill the prophecy, but the words from Crowfeather hit him hard, and Breezepelt felt his eyes water. Why couldn't any cat see how hard he was trying to prove himself?

He heard paw steps from behind him. "Breezepelt this is urgent." Breezepelt whirled around, claws unsheathed and arched his back, *intruder*! He thought. To his surprise Tallstar sat behind him and the words that came next filled him with disbelief. "The prophecy that I told you was a lie, I was a fool to believe that the dark forest cat had received the prophecy before Starclan And I come with the truth". Breezepelt blinked "am I dreaming?" He whispered. Tallstar ignored it.

"*The clans will clash, and the place of no stars will settle, if the cat with the blue eyes, And wind blown fur is not stopped*"

Breezepelt shivered, but the wonder he felt was replaced with anger " I've no time for this! Why can't you figure this out for yourselves? *Why me? "* Breezepelt questioned, He turned so that Tallstar could not see his face as it was wet from tears that was cascading down his cheek. Tallstar sighed "because he is very close to you, so close, yet so far from good in blood."
Tallstar then did something unexpected " I used to cry to, but look at this prophecy and look at it well... don't listen to what your father says, you are smart and I already know you know what cat I'm talking about in the prophecy".Breezepelts mouth flew open shocked. Only one name came to mind, and it made his blood turn cold, and his hackles to rise. " Are you saying..... somehow Crowfeather..... my father is going.. to ... destroy the clans?".

Chapter 6

The two rabbits that Breezepelt had carried home were cold, and he got a lot of feedback about that. Onestar, Breezepelt noted, watched him as if considering if he should claw Breezepelts eyes or muzzle for coming back with such small and feeble prey.
Ashfoot, who Breezepelt loved to call Shadow because she often copied and shadowed Onestar was sunning herself beside him. The wind rustled the elders den and a voice rose to complain "Onestar, can you please send apprentices to patch up the holes in the elders den? I feel as stiff as the rabbit that Breezepelt caught!" Webfoot a dark gray tabby tom mewed from across the clearing. Onestar, Breezepelt watched from the shadows of the Warriors den shifted and sighed " yes, And I have a important announcement to make anyway". Breezepelt narrowed his eyes as Crowfeather walked past him to sit in the middle of the clearing as he had already heard about Onestar calling a meeting. *Can I trust anyone anymore? all most everyone in this clan is a friend to Nightcloud and Crowfeather! I've even heard whispers of other cats saying that Crowfeather should take the role as deputy when Onestar would pass away!* Breezepelt marveled and dug his claws into the soft ground *I can't let that happen!*.

*"*Will all cats old enough to catch their prey join here beneath Highrock for a meeting!". Breezepelt looked up to see Onestar standing on Highrock, peering down into the clearing. waiting. Slowly, cats began to emerge form there nest. Nightcloud walked beside Morningflower and Harespring to sit beside Crowfeather, Owlwhisker, Tornear, and Gorsetail. Whitetail, Barkface and Kestrelpaw sat outside of the medicine den. The apprentices rested in one clot, while Heathertail and Emberfoot craned there ears toward Onestar as they were guarding. Weaselfur, Leaftail, Dewspots,Antpelt, and Willowclaw sat close to the fresh kill pile. Onestar raised his voice when everyone was settled. " Ashfoot will be moving to the nursery as she is expecting my kits" he inquired. Voices rose up to Congratulate Ashfoot who was sitting beside Onestar. Breezepelt stayed quiet though he blanched at the though

of a leader having kits. Doesn't that weaken the clan? Breezepelt knew how fathers acted, or how his father pretended to act. Breezepelt barely saw his father but He heard how Crowfeather always told everyone that he visited him all the time and everyday. Even though,in truth, Crowfeather visited him every two moons or something. Or was it three?. Onestar continued " Also, the wind has been blowing fiercer lately, and it has caused for the elders den to get multiple holes". Thistlepaw, a show off stepped forward " and we'd love to help". Swallowpaw, Sunpaw, and Sedgepaw stepped forward and dipped there heads. Onestar twitched his tail in satisfaction " well, if that's settled, this then meeting is over" .

Though before Onestar could step down from the Highrock, Crowfeather stepped up "doesn't there need to be a temporary deputy if Ashfoot is to move to the nursery?" He announced. Ashfoot stood to whisper to Onestar, and Breezepelt noticed how swollen Ashfoots belly had gotten. He never really paid attention to it, but now it stood out like a mouse riding a rabbit. Onestar dipped his head " very well, Crowfeather will be the temporary deputy from now on". Everyone rose there voices "Crowfeather! Crowfeather!Crowfeather!" Though for some reason Breezepelt felt himself grow sick. Was this such a good idea? He still had no idea what Crowfeather was up to but he knew he had to figure it out soon.

Chapter 7

Crowfeather trotted through the Dark forest. The damp air and dew clinging to his pelt. Dead branches and the smell of crow-food was everywhere. Even though Crowfeather had been there more then once, the place still gave him the creeps. " What took you so long?" A sly voice echoed, A dark tabby tom with razor sharp long claws slid out of the darkness. Crowfeather dipped his head " Greetings Tigerstar, But I come with urgent new-" Tigerstar cut him off "so I heard that you've become deputy, Congratulations". Crowfeather shifted his paws " Its only temporary" Tigerstars amber eyes shone with what looked like cold menace " you know what you have to do then?" He mewed and stepped closer to Crowfeather. Crowfeather became nervous. He had heard the stories about how Tigerstar had used dogs to kill the past Thunderclan leader Bluestar. Also, that he had taken over Shadowclan and piled dead corpses so that the smell had spread over the moors telling any cat that if they tried to walk on their territory they would join the pile . Even though Crowfeather wanted to join in the fight against the clans and become the best leader and ruler, he still had his misgivings about completely trusting Tigerstar.

Without warning, Tigerstar lunged at Crowfeather. Crowfeather reared onto his hind legs, but when Crowfeather went to swipe, Tigerstar quickly ducked and pulled Crowfeathers tail from under him. Losing his balance, Crowfeather crumpled to the ground and Tigerstar was immediately pinning him down. He struggled but Tigerstars grip was like iron. His breath stunk Crowfeathers ear as he leaned down to whisper " if you think your ready to become leader you are wrong. we'll train you more, but for now take control and convince the clan that your *better* then Ashfoot and that they need *you*. After all, you do want your clan to be the strongest don't you? You want to be able to scare those filthy Thunderclan cats from the tip of there tails, right?".

All of a sudden, more cats emerged from the dank forest. Tigerstar slowly stepped off of Crowfeather. Crowfeather scrambled up

indignantly, licking his ruffled fur. Before Tigerstar turned to leave he heeded a warning, his eyes narrowed in concentration
" Watch that son of yours ,I have a bad feeling about him".
Crowfeather scoffed " my son? Are you serious? You must be joking"he had to hold back a snort of laughter. My *son can barely run a mile without tripping*. A white she-cat with orange patches stepped forward. Crowfeather knew for her to be Mapleshade. " He has more potential then you think".

Before Crowfeather could answer, he felt like water was logging down his pelt and his eyes felt heavy. Before he slipped back to the real world, before he slipped back to the clans, he remembered one thing and one thing only, *I must become deputy, no matter what the cost.*

Chapter 8

Crowfeathers pov.

Crowfeather awoke with a jolt. He tried to sit up and winced. The marks were Tigerclaw had dug his claws into his shoulders to pin him down were slowly pooling with blood. Something shifted from beside him. " Your bleeding, Crowfeather are you all right?" Nightcloud, who was settled next to him questioned . Crowfeather hissed in annoyance *was it really necessary for Tigerstar to attack me?* from experience Crowfeather knew that he shouldn't have let Tigerstar take him off guard in the first place. Crowfeather dipped his head " I need to get some fresh air". Without another word, Crowfeather climbed out of his nest and trotted outside. The new role as deputy had begun. Crowfeather remembering that the apprentices were supposed to get to work on the elders den, he started to make his way over when a voice interrupted " I already alerted the apprentices, they went to go collect Long grass and moss". Crowfeather turned his head to find his sons cold gaze staring back at him. Before Crowfeather could react he remembered Mapleshades advice; *The kit may have more potential then you think*. Crowfeather thought about that, and forced his tone into a grateful one. "Thanks, would you mind going on Morning hunting patrol?". Breezepelt looked taken aback " Su-sure o-okay".

Crowfeather watch his mouse-brained son stumble away. Crowfeather knew he would have to gain his sons trust if what Mapleshade and Tigerstar said was true. There was no space for mistakes, in order to become deputy he had to take charge before the leader got to. As cats started to mill out of their dens and into the clearing, Crowfeather jumped up onto the Highrock. He raised his voice " Can Breezepelt, Harespring, Owlwhisker, Emberfoot, and Weaselfur do the hunting patrols?". The cats that he called looked up at him questionably. Crowfeather felt a tick of annoyance, *these cats should be hurrying to follow my orders*! "I'm sorry, did I stutter?" He hissed. The cats he called began to move toward the gorse tunnel and when Breezepelt flicked his tail, they all filed out of the

camp towards the moor. Crowfeather nodded with satisfaction, and something came to mind: should he make border patrols? *Usually the leader makes border patrols but....*
Crowfeather looked up to see the leaders den. The soft yew that hung from the leaders den didn't even rustle. *I guess I going to have to take this opportunity*. Crowfeather raised his voice " me, Tornear, Antpelt, Gorsetail, and Leaftail will do border patrols". This time there was no objection, as Crowfeather jumped down from the rock to lead the patrol away, He turned to whisk his tail towards Whitetail who was eating her prey. "do you mind waking Onestar and informing him that I already set patrols?". Whitetail narrowed her eyes " Yes, Crowfeather" and dipped her head to bite into the small rabbit that lay at her paws. Crowfeather, looking at Tornear nodded " What are you waiting for? Let's go!".

Out on the moor the patrol sniffed the air and padded along the border and made sure to leave there own markings as well. *We need to keep the border markings strong, we don't want the Shadowclan cats to trespass and then give a lame excuse about how or border markings were to faint.*
That was when Crowfeather heard the commotion " Crowfeather come quick! CROWFEATHER!".

Crowfeather whirled around to face the young apprentice Sunpaw. He was breathing hard from the long run, and his eyes glittered " Ashfoot is kitting! but somethings wrong! Barkface doesn't have the right herb to help! He said he needs a thick stick and there's something else". The small apprentice shivered " Onestar is not waking up, but he already lost two lives! he's on his fifth one now! But I don't know what's wrong with him! Whitetail said that he keeps yowling and pawing the air yelling the name Maple of fade Maple of fade!, The clan doesn't know what to do!". Crowfeather widened his eyes.

I leave for a few heartbeats... but then another voice nagged at the back of his head; *this is your chance! If Onestar remains sick and if Ashfoot remains a queen.....* Crowfeather made a show of swelling his chest up and making his eyes commanding, The patrol behind him remained sniffing and checking the border. Inside he knew the actual name that Onestar was trying to say, and he felt giddy with

pleasure. He couldn't believe that Mapleshade was helping him kill Onestar to become leader! . Crowfeather turned to the patrol " stop! I want Antpelt and Tornear to look for the thickest stick possible, everyone else keep checking the scents. Sunpaws eyes grew wide "what do I do?" He whimpered. Crowfeather turned to him " I want you to go back to camp and help Kestrelpaw look for the herb that Ashfoot needs, I'll head back to camp to help Onestar". He tried to make his voice as demanding as possible, the more convincing the better.

When Crowfeather arrived at camp, The white she-cat Whitetail raced up to him " Onestar lost another two lives! And he still isn't waking up!". Meanwhile, a painful yowl rose up into the camp, followed by another one. "and Ashfoots kitting! Great Starclan! What's happening!".
Crowfeather, putting on a nonchalant face brushed past her to look at the nursery. Cats surrounded the outside anxiously. Crowfeather shook his head, " ALL CATS WHO ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE KITTING PLEASE GET AWAY FROM THE NURSERY" Crowfeather yowled. Cats turned to stare at him and when they met his burning gaze, they walked off to somewhere else. Only Breezepelt, Crowfeather could see, remained. His son just sat there peering into the nursery. Crowfeather hissed, his son wasn't known as a listener. Crowfeather without thinking bounded over to him and made it in two Fox-Tails. Crowfeather cuffed him over the ear " didn't you hear me son, move your tail". Breezepelt whirled around to confront him " I'm worried about Ashfoot! Isn't that allowed?" He sneered. Crowfeather met it with a growl " Worrying won't help the clan, so stop this now and go!". Breezepelt hissed and unsheathed his claws, at first Crowfeather thought he was going to pounce but He doubted it. His son sighed and stalked away. *I knew it.*
Another yowl rose into the clearing and abrupty stopped. After a few minutes Barkface trotted outside. The short tailed Tom smelled of sharp herbs and Sweet nursing milk. He then plopped down onto the ground falling fast asleep. Crowfeather craned his ears into the nursery, and felt a thrill of joy as to hearing mewling kits. Crowfeather turned away and pressed on to Onestars den. There was still unattended business to handle.

Chapter 9

Breezepelt felt his heart tighten at the thought of Crowfeather hurting Ashfoots kits. It was an absurd thought, but judging by how Crowfeather had been acting lately, Breezepelt didn't doubt a thing. He knew that he had done training and taken part with Tigerstar and his cronies,but this was different. Breezepelt had a suspicion that Mapleshade,Tigerstar, and Darkstripe had something to do with this. Padding towards the fresh kill pile Breezepelt intended to pick a small feeble rabbit, but a shriek of terror met his ears. Thoughts raced across his mind and his chest swelled with panic. *Was there something wrong with Ashfoot? Are their intruders? Is Onestar awake? Is one of the kits dead?*
Before Breezepelt could do anything Heathertail was yanking him towards the clearing. Breezepelts breath caught in his throat. What he saw made his ears numb. Onestar, there great and young leader that was supposed to be alive and live for generations, lay at the paws of his father Crowfeather. Crowfeather was bent over Onestar,his muzzle resting on Onestars chest. Slowly, he raised his head to yowl "Onestar is dead!". Caterwauls of grief and cries of anger and distress rose to answer Crowfeather. Breezepelt felt his claws unsheathe. Somehow he managed to find words " Who.. Who .. did this?". Nightcloud padded next to him and rested her tail on his shoulder her eyes shining with anger and disbelief . " What is the meaning of this? how could a cat die like this?" Whitetail spoke up " he was yowling his head off as if he were being attacked!!!" Tornear and Sunpaw rose to object "but how? he was asleep!! Someone must have poisoned him!".
Leaftail, Owlwhisker, and other cats rose up, yowling conclusions about how Onestar could of died. Though deep down Breezepelt knew what had really happened. Even though there was no evidence of something attacking or ending Onestars life, Breezepelt knew that somehow, Crowfeather had killed Onestar. Crowfeather raised his tail for silence " his burial shall take place tonight". No one said anything. Finally, Harespring spoke up " so are you our leader now?". Antpelt stepped up "we will have to go now,if you want to make it in time to gain lives and mark your place as leader,

and you also need to appoint a new deputy" he mewed. Crowfeather dipped his head "very well, but we will not leave until we have prepared Onestar for grieving". Breezepelt hissed at the cold edge to Crowfeathers tone.

Later on, Breezepelt and the whole clan gathered to share tongues with Onestar. His father had come back with 9 lives and had appointed Harespring as deputy. Lying closely by Onestars side was Ashfoot and her kits. A dark light brown tabby Tom with crisp blue eyes was named Eaglekit. A soft light gray tabby she-cat with gray eyes and sharp features was Featherkit. A dark gray she-cat with light gray spots, and fur as soft as rabbit fur was Mallowkit. Last but not least a dark brown tabby Tom with eyes like fire was Emberkit. They all lay nestled to there mothers belly, resting. Breezepelt couldn't take his eyes off of Crowfeather. He has no idea what to do unless he got closer to Crowfeather, and that would be a hard task. He felt his jaw set at the idea, but it was the only thing he could think of.
He would do this for his clan, and only his clan not anyone else. Even if it meant killing his father.

Chapter 10

Breezepelt awoke in the dark forest. Even though he had been there before, it still made him crouch and narrow his eyes against the gloom. Even though when he was summoned to the dark forest, usually some cat would appear and begin his training, but this time he was all alone. Breezepelt sniffed the air trying to scent another cat, but only crow-food and the scent of death met his nostrils. From the din, voices rose up " Crowfeather tuck your tail in and swipe!!!". Breezepelt's eyes widened *Crowfeathers here?* Breezepelt padded forward, and stumbled into a clearing. *Crowfeather?* His father, was dueling with a white cat with a scar running from his face to his stomach. Watching from the side was Mapleshade and a cat Breezepelt knew to be Thistleclaw. He watched as the white cat ducked and took a swipe at Crowfeather, but Crowfeather dodged it and made to pounce on the white cats back but faked and raked his claws down the white cats stomach. The tom yowled in rage and pain, his eyes crazed, the white cat lunged at Crowfeathers legs, Crowfeather leaped and came down squarely on the white cats back. Crowfeather threw all of his weight down, making the white cat clatter to the ground. Breezepelt watched in fascination and horror as Crowfeather started to brutally attack the white cats back,moving dangerously to the neck. the white cat writhed and hissed trying to throw Crowfeather off, but Crowfeather held fast and dug his claws into the shoulders of the tom. Crowfeather found this moment to toy and taunt with him. Yowling in triumph Crowfeather scratched at the white cats face continuously. All the while, Thistleclaw and Mapleshade sat and watched. Mapleshade was grinning evily, when Thistleclaw finally held up his paws to call off the fight. From head to tail Breezepelt shuddered as Crowfeather and the white cat ended the fight. Mapleshade hissed " we should of given you more of a challenge, Snowtuft is a weakling who has bees for brains". Snowtuft scrambled up from the ground half of his face was dripping with blood from where Crowfeather had scratched it, and tufts of fur littered the ground. "I'm no weakling, the fact that you came up with the idea to kill Onestar in his dreams first, and you had to do the dirty work proves he's no

bright cat if I'd ever seen one". Crowfeather whirled around to confront Sowtuft, lashing his tail defensively "but I'm the one who finished the job, if it weren't for me Onestar would still have a few lives and I wouldn't be leader, unlike you...". Thistleclaw stepped up " stop this bickering, there are still matters to speak of". Crowfeather reluctantly sheathed his claws, Snowtuft and shifted his paws. Though Breezepelt wanted to know what they were planning, he couldn't but help feel the numbness of betrayal flowing through his blood like ice. He was right all along about how, somehow, Crowfeather had ended Onestar, and even though he had been ready to confront Crowfeather, a little part of him hoped that it wasn't true, but now that little part of him was swallowed up and replaced by doubt. He was so distracted with his thoughts that he hadn't noticed that the air had changed and it was flowing towards him. Mapleshade hissed " were being watched!". Breezepelt jumped as he realized that he was in an angle that if they turned he would be spotted immediately. Looking around for somewhere to hide, at the last minute when they were all about the turn around, Breezeplt slithered into a thick holly bush that would hide him for sure. The thorns tugged at his pelt uncomfortably and pricked his muzzle and tail. The voice of Crowfeather rose up " lets just move somewhere else'. Seconds later, paw steps started to move away from his hiding spot, fading into the distance. Breezepelt waited a couple of heartbeats before peeking out. The clearing was deserted, and thick mist started to close in. Breezepelt doubted that he would be able to find Crowfeather again and listen to there plan. Breezepelt again was all alone.

Chapter 11

The Day before the Gathering...

"Emberkit! Get from down there! Mallowkit stop bothering your brother come here! EAGLEKIT I KNOW SHE'S BOTHERING YOU JUST GIVE ME TIME! ,No your not old enough to eat solid prey put the rabbit down!". Breezepelt felt his mouth curl up in amusement. Looks like having kits isn't as easy as Ashfoot thought. Breezepelt watched as Mallowkit padded over to Ashfoot, her head hung low, ashamed that she had To sit beside her mother for bothering Emberkit. Eaglekit padded away to put the rabbit back, while Featherkit climbed down from on top of the nursery. The clan was busy as usual but the dream still lingered in Breezepelt's mind. He never got to hear what they were planning and it worried him. Harespring proved to be a good deputy. He was young and spry but occasionally showed a bad and mischievous side. Lately, a few cats had been acting suspicious. Tornear was more grumpier then usual, Antpelt had suddenly started to train with Leaftail, claws unsheathed. The last time Breezepelt had seen them was when Crowfeather was talking to them and sharing tongues.

Breezepelt got into his hunting crouch, sneaking up on the plump rabbit that was digging a burrow. Creeping forward Breezepelt slowly got closer... and closer.... The rabbit bolted. Breezepelt chased after it, the wind rushing and whipping at his ears his tail streaming behind him. Cutting it off, Breezepelt pounced on it. It struggles until Breezepelt killed it with a swift bite to the neck. He was about to pick it up when he tripped over the tubby legs as it was a huge rabbit and stumbled into a hedge of long grass. Cursing, Breezepelt struggled to get up, and froze. Owlwhisker was padding along the moor. *What is he doing?* Breezepelt thought and slid back down to the ground keeping his head low. Owlwhisker certainly wasn't patrolling as he was by himself and he wasn't checking and scents or he would've smell Breezepelt by now. He wasn't hunting as he was prey less and Breezepelt watched as he simply ignored the fresh rabbits scent that Breezepelt had killed.

Owlwhisker seemed to be on end, his fur rising and his claws unsheathed and sharpened. He seemed to be heading to Twoleg place. Breezepet out of Curiosity followed.

Breezepelt was hiding in a bunch of reeds. Owlwhisker stopped at the very border of Riverclan and sat at the lapping shore of the flowing river. Breezepelt wrinkled his nose at the strong Riverclan scent coming from the border. A voice rose to greet Owlwhisker. " Greetings Owlwhisker, What brings you here?". A dark brown tabby Tom with icy blue eyes slid out of the depths of the reeds and wet forest. Owlwhisker growled " stop stalling Hawkfrost, did you get your sister to get to our side?". Hawkfrost shifted his paws and narrowed his eyes " I haven't asked yet" he hissed. Owlwhisker sighed " Crowfeather wants use all to be at the gathering and Tigerstar has no room for mistakes" He gestures towards Thunderclan " even Cinderheart got Lionblaze to come around".Breezepelt unsheathed his claws Looks like Crowfeathers Thunderclan kits were eager for domination. Hawkfrost shook his head and lashed his tail " Brambleclaw, Sandstorm, and Graystripe, along with Antpelt, Tawnypelt, Tigerpaw, Rowanclaw, Toadfoot, Cloudtail, Brightheart,Dustpelt, and Hollyleaf I know are on board but there may be more". Breezepelt widened his eyes at the names that flowed from Hawkfrost mouth. Owlwhisker dipped his head and turned to leave " Jayfeather is with us to we just a need one more Medicine cat and we will be Tigerclan once more."

Chapter 12

Breezepelt stumbled back to camp in a daze the rabbit he killed hanging from his mouth. Whitetail was staring at him flicking her tail. Breezepelt padded over to sit next to her. Whitetail was nibbling on a small mouse. Now that Windclan had forests in there territory they often got to taste new prey. Whitetail mewed " You've seem to be troubled lately, what's up?". Breezepet stiffened " nothing" he managed. Whitetail looked at him as if he had horns " do you really think I'm that mouse-brained?". Breezepelt looked away from her scolding gaze, guilt bubbled in his stomach " I'm sorry, I need to go". Whitetail tilted her head as Breezepelt drew himself up and padded away.

Cats milled around most staying with there own clan though occasionally Cats sat down and exchanged words. Breezepelt sniffed the air there was no sign of Riverclan. Breezepelt hissed and was about to take to Heathertail when a beautiful silver and white tabby she-cat with dark blue eyes stalked up to him. Breezepelt relaxed and murmured "Ivypool, how's the prey running?". Ivypool dipped her head ignoring the question. " Breezepelt I think somethings bad about to happen, and it's going to happen soon". Breezepelt bit back a gasp, *does she know what's going on?*
Breezepelt opened his mouth to answer but a yowl cut him off. "Riverclan has arrived!". Riverclan cats started to streamed into the clearing. Mistyfoot held her head high as she settled in her place on the tree. Firestars raised his head " I will go first" but Blackstar stepped up to interrupt him " Windclan scent has still been reported with stealing prey". Breezepelt Arched his back and hissed as Blackstar pointed towards Crowfeather " And what's this fox heart doing here? Onestar to shy to show his muzzle after stealing our prey?" . Crowfeather made a show of raising his tail for silence and dipped his head solemnly " Onestar is dead". Mistyfoot gasped, Firestars eyes widened. Crowfeather nodded at Blackstar " I guess it's my turn to share then" . Blackstar, Breezepelt could tell, Was holding back a snarl as Crowfeather talked " Ashfoot has given birth to four healthy kits, we believe they will grow into great warriors".

Firestar spoke " we will all grieve Onestar dearly". Firestar then spoke and Mistyfoot stood up " Before we leave let us have a moment of silence for our fallen leader". Later, after the gathering we started to make our way back to Windclan when the first surge of Shadowclan warriors attacked.

Chapter 13

Breezepelt was the first one to notice something was off. He opened his mouth to yowl a warning but it was to late. Cats surged from Shadowclan territory surrounding The Windclan patrol. Breezepelt hissed as Rowanclaw met his eyes. Blackstar was facing off Crowstar. While Harespring darted and confused to other Shadowclan warriors. Breezepelt lunged at Rowanclaw. Rowanclaw hissed and darted to the side, Breezepelt met him with blows so fierce, Rowanclaw had no choice but to retreat. Cats writhed and yowled in triumph and agony. Breezepelt spotted Russetfur trying to creep up on Crowstar. She slowly stalked forward as Crowstar pinned Blackstar down. Breezepelt Crouched and lunged Swiping at her head. Russetfur yowled and whirled towards him, moving to the left to dodge the swipe that Breezepelt aimed at her ear. Russetfur leaped and Knocked him down " We are sick of you Windclan cats stealing our prey!". Breezepelt struggled " And were sick of being of accused by you mouse- brains everyday Fox-breath!". Russetfur clawed a Breezepelts face. Breezepelt felt warm liquid spilling down his face. Breezepelt would not let this Shadowclan cat win, and he bunched his hind legs and kicked. Russetstar flew off of him and I the process of her landing crashed into a Shadowclan cat that was cornering Owlwhisker. They sprinted away, tumbling over each other and tripping.
" Shadowclan! Push!" Blackstar announced. He hissed in pain as Crowstar Started to continuously claw at his muzzle. Shadowclan cats tried to push forward but Windclan met them with more fierceness. Breezepelt found himself fighting alongside Leaftail, Biting and clawing at any cat that came to close to them. Breezepelt saw out of his peripheral vision, Blackstar all bloody and limping, a deep wound on his face. " Shadowclan! Retreat!". Breezepelt watched as cats started to run away back into their filthy swamp. Crowstar Looked at him " Breezepelt, Leaftail, and Sunpaw make sure they actually left". Nodding Breezepelt took off, the wind whipping at his fur, the scratch on his face still bleeding but not as much. The grass was trampled from the fight and Breezepelt hissed in annoyance as he saw Shadowclan cats still retreating from

Windclan. Breezepelt nipped Toadstep as he was slowing down. Spitting fury he spread up leaping across the border to safety. Leaftail stopped next to Breezepelt "NEVER COME BACK FILTHY SCUM!". Sunpaw howled in triumph "Yeah! Stay off our territory!".

Breezepelt narrowed his eyes turning, he started to head back up the slope thoughts crowding his mind. Obviously, someone was crossing the border to steal prey if it drove Shadowclan to attack. Though as Breezepelt reached the scene Worry changed to pride. His clan had beaten them, and that was all that mattered. Crowstar was making sure every one was okay. Breezepelt nodded his head "Shadowclan is gone". Heathertail, whirled around and hissed " they better be!" Owlwhisker hissed and unsheathed his claws " If they even think about intruding again, I'll claw there hearts out!". Cats mewed in agreement. Crowstar gestured towards camp, " Lets head back".

Cats stood wide eyed and open mouthed as Harespring and Crowfeather informed them about the fight. Ashfoot gasped and curled her tail around her kits. Mallowkit squealed in protest. Eaglekit whined "mama, your squishing me!" Featherkit narrowed her eyes "mama why would Shadowclan want to hurt us? Isn't that against the warrior code?". Emberkit sighed " No Mouse-brain, if any of them were killed with no reason than that would be against the warrior code". Feather mewed " But according to Shadowclan, there saying that we stole there prey". Ashfoot shushed them. Tornear's voice rose up " we should invade there territory and give gem a peiceof our minds!". Antpelt hissed and unsheathed his claws " Yeah!, We'll send them pleading for mercy in a couple of heartbeats!". Swallowpaw and Thistlepaw agreed as well and jumped to there paws. Breezepelt felt a sick feeling in his stomach. Breezepelt watched as Gorsetail, , Willowclaw, and Dewspots stand up. They looked as if they knew this was going to happen. Crowstar nodded in satisfaction "Shadowclan has been causing trouble for to long." cheers and Caterwauls rose up " There are cats In the clans that don't belong, cats that want to have a stronger clan that shows no mercy!". Breezepelt felt his blood go cold.*This is what they've been planning all along, to take the clans to make a stronger one to kill the weak cats to separate them.* Breezepelt looked, around only Whitetail, his sweet mother Nightcloud, the elders Webfoot, Goldenflower,

Kestralpaw, Weaselfur, and Sunpaw looked uncertain. Breezepelt knew they had to get out and warn the clans. Crowstar "Tigerclan, will be once more! We will tear down our enemies and conquer the clans once and for all!". Cheers grew louder " Tigerclan, Tigerclan!, Tigerclan!". Breezepelt expected to see Ashfoot savaged but she looked determined and though her kits were another thing. Eaglekit slowly stared to back away " Mama I'm scared " . Featherkit strayed to do the same, Mallowkit and Emberkit followed. Ashfoot stared at them disbelieving " Tigerclan will make you strong! This will be better then Windclan!". Mallowkit squealed " No! We don't want to be Tigerclan!". everyone grew quiet. Breezepelt unsheathed his claws and moved toward Nightcloud " Gather everyone up, were bolting". Nightcloud looked at him and nodded. Signaling with her tail Nightcloud gestured toward the entrance. Webfoot looked confused and Goldenflower whispered something into his ears. Nodding Webfoot rose and slowly Made his way towards the entrance. Goldenflower followed. Ashfoot still staring at her kit lashed her tail and hissed " Well then your no longer my kits!". Breeezepelt gasped. The kits mewed and cried " But mama!". Though Ashfoot wasn't paying attention. She has her gaze fixed on Crowstar. Kestrelpaw who had herbs in her mouth, dropped them into the ground in shock. She had gotten Nightclouds message but she was shocked at Ashfoots show of coldness. Not knowing where to go the kits stumbled over each other. Breezepelt heard Nightcloud growl and pad over to Ashfoot. Breezepet moved to and Nightcloud picked up Mallowkit and Emberkit, while Breezepelt picked up Featherkit and Eaglekit. They hung limp in his jaws as he carried them toward the entrance. Weasulfur was already there. Crowstars gruff voice growled " what do you cats think your doing?". Weasulfur hissed " Were leaving! We don't want this!". Crowstar hissed, growls filled the camp "Traitors!". Crowstar narrowed his eyes "we shall attack as soon s the sun peaks up". Weasulfur shifted his paws. Crowstar continued " You have till then to save who you can, and get out".

Chapter 14

Weaselfur was the first one to suggest splitting up. " The shorter the time it takes to rally up cats the better". Nightcloud dipped her head to put down the kits. The kits had been quiet the whole way down the moor, away from there mother,away from there home. Mallowkit whimpered and cuddled next to Eaglekit. Featherkit laid down and buried her muzzle in her paws. Emberkit just sat down, eyes filled with despair. Webfoot nudged Emberkit, sympathetic, while Morningflower curled around the other kits. Breezepelt and Nightcloud looked at each other " I'll go to Riverclan, Breezepelt you go to Thunderclan, and Weaselfur will go to Shadowclan. Webfoot sniffed " we'll stay here to look after the kits" Goldenflower only nodded and curled her self even closer to the kits. Weaselfur wrinkled his nose " Ok, but don't expect me to be polite after they invaded our territory".

Breezepelt hissed in impatience as he waited for a patrol to notice him. Literally, he could've run and hunted on there territory and been off in seconds before they discovered him.
Finally, a yowl erupted from the forest. Cats stalked out of the thick undergrowth their hackles risen, and their teeth bared. In front was Brambleclaw, in the back was Berrynose, Hollyleaf, Mousewhisker, and ....Ivypool. Her eyes were the only ones that weren't narrowed with hostility, just curiosity. Brambleclaw slowly blinked " What are you doing on or territory at this time of night? Shouldn't you be chasing rabbits or something?".
Breezepelt had to use every bone, muscle and nerve to make himself not to screech in annoyance. " I have to talk to Firestar, it's very urgent" Looking up at the sky, Breezepelt saw that the moon still remained. Brambleclaw sat down and licked down a ruffled patch of fur on his shoulder " How ur-" Breezepelt couldn't take it more.
"URGENT ENOUGH TO GET YOUR MOUSE-BRAINED RUMP OFF THE GROUND AND TAKE ME TO FIRESTAR?! YOUR LIVES ARE ON THE LINE!". Everything was quiet. A growl rose from Berrynose "how dare you sp-" Stupidclaw raised his tail for silence " Enough,

we'll bring you to Firestar". Breezepelt sighed in relief and was given a menacing glare
by Hollyleaf for it. Breezepelt returned it right back. They circled him and slowly led him to their camp and every minute, he felt like his pelt was on end, could these cats be any dumber? he had always thought they were stupid but.Wow. If he were a mouse and he saw the ugly sniding face of a Thunderclan cat he's kill himself and through his body to the crows. Anything to get away from them. Entering a clearing, Breezepelt saw a gorse tunnel that was being guarded by Sorreltail and Foxpaw. They glared at him suspiciously as he passed them and made his way into the camp. Brambleclaw in the front yowled " all cats old enough to catch there own prey join beneath Highstone for a meeting!". Breezepelt looked at two dens that sat in the corner. One smelled of herbs while the other smelled of milk and kits. The other dens he guessed was The warriors and he apprentices den along with a another one that was probably the elders den. Breezepelt thought that it was a good solid camp with walls that stretched high, and he spotted a fresh kill pile resting up on a hill, resting beside it was Cloudtail and Brightheart. Something nudged him from behind. " Firestar wants to speak with you". Breezepelt turned to see Ivypool. She put her tail on his shoulder and guided him toward some rocks with footholds that he had to climb. Halfway up, his pelt gleaming from sweat he saw Dustpelt and Sandstorm staring at him intently while Lionblaze, Jayfeather, and Hollyleaf were standing outside the Medicine den. Leafpool was trying to get a ruffled Purdy to eat a mouse. While Mousefur was sunning herself when really , Breezepelt knew they were watching him. *Will they believe what I have to say*?. Ivypool who was climbing up from behind pushed him over the last rock. Breezepelt thought his muscles were crying for mercy. Ivypool chuckled in amusement. Whirling around Breezepelt hissed "on the moor, we don't climb things". Ivypool narrowed her eyes " then why aren't you there right now". A stinging retort died on his lips, leaning in he nuzzled her and whispered " you'll find out soon enough you just have to trust me ".Ivypool pulled away and nodded eyes shining " I trust you". Turning around Ivypool led him toward a crevice. There was a den with comfy yew hanging from the entrance. Ivypool stopped right in front of it and mewed " Firestar he's here". A husky voice rose from the den " Bring him in".

Chapter 15

Firestar lay in his nest. looking as if he'd just woken up. Breezepelt shook his head " Firestar I have urgent news". Firestars eyes narrowed " Go on". Breezepelt took a deep breath *here I go.* " Firestar have you noticed lately that cats seem to be more tense then before? You know, fighting with claws unsheathed, border patrols more frequent?". Firestar flicked his tail and narrowed his eyes, Breezepelt could tell that he was thinking. The flame colored cat shifted " yeah, why?". Breezepelt felt himself stiffen. *How would the Thunderclan cats react?* Firestar hissed. " If you hadn't noticed Thunderclan has better things to do then wait for stuttering Windclan cats to speak". Breezepelt narrowed his eyes he didn't even have to warn Firestar, he could just let these traitors die, though nightcloud would claw his face off if he didn't say anything so..... " your own clanmates are out to kill you Firestar". Firstar jumped up his tail swaying uneasily " wha-" Breezepelt stepped forward , Firestar backed away. "Firestar you know what I'm talking about, don't run away from this, some of your cats here, your warriors that say they've sworn loyalty to you, they've been sneaking behind your back, and you know it, don't you?". Firestar shook his head, emotion showing through his eyes, confirming what Breezepelt had suspected. " I-I know a lot of cats are against me but if I just have enough time-' Breezepelt hissed and pounced on Firestar pinning him down. *I've had enough! Firestar didn't fight back, the only movement of resistence was Firestar unsheathing his claws. "* We don't have time! Rally up your loyal cats! and meet us at the lake! You only have until the sun even peaks above the sky! so do it and do it now!". All of a sudden, claws dug into Breezepelt's back. Breezepelt yowled and jumped off of Firestar. Breezepelt whirled around extending his claws and swiping whoever was behind him. Breezepelt felt his claws meet fur and the cat that was holding him backed away, and Breezepelt turned around. A drak tabby tom that looked like Tigerstar had a scratch where Breezepelt had clawed him. Breezepelt didn't wait for his cue to leave pushing past Brambleclaw, Breezepelt exited out of the claustrophobic den. Looking up Breezepelt could see the moon had gone down a little.

Ivypool was waiting outside her eyes trailing down his back looking at the claw marks. breezepelt went over to her and licked her ear " Come with me, your true clanmates will meet you later". Confused, Ivypool nodded and followed Breezepelt as he made his way down the rocks. Thunderclan cats were gathered in the middle the clearing looking at the gray stone they called Highstones. Waiting for Firestar to come announce the news. Breezepelt looked over at the medicine den. Jayfeather was siting and eating prey while Leafpool was inside probably sorting some herbs. Murmuring started up at the sight of Breezepelt heading towards the entrance. A black tom with a brown underbelly and long legs stepped in front of them " stay here, until Firestar allows you to leave" the tom growled. Breezepelt felt annoyance bubbling up inside of him. Ivypool stepped up " I'm escorting him back to his own territory, so get your fat muzzle out of our business and move". Spiderleg flinched and shuffled away muttering to himself all the while. Breezepelt looked at Ivypool in surprise, she looked at him and shrugged " I've picked up a little grumpiness from you".

Chapter 16

The sun started to rise, the first rays illuminating their light, making the birds wake up in their nest, the bugs to start buzzing, prey waking up starting scuttle around and to look for food. Cats were huddled under a tree murmuring and casting nervous glances at the territory's. Breezepelt scanned the cats before him. Riverclan, Shadowclan and Windclan, but as Breezepelt sniffed the air he scented no Thunderclan cats. What was left of Shadowclan was Blackstar, Smokefoot, Crowfrost, Kinkfur, Shrewpaw, and Olivepaw, Snowbird a heavily pregnant pure-white she cat, along with the elders Tallpoppy and Cedarheart. Riverclan, Mistystar, A queen Icewing, Willowshine a medicine cat apprentice, the elders Heavystep,and Swallowtail, and the Warriors Beechfur, Voletooth, Minnowpaw, Pinefur, and Dapplenose. Ashfoots kits were sound asleep, Cuddled up to Morningflower. Nightcloud was pacing and muttering to herself, while Weaselfur and Webfoot sat guard. They're were a few impatient mews, but Webfoot after a few minutes yowled "More cats. There was a rustling in the bushes. Thunderclan cats streamed out " we are here! Breezepelt, you were right we must leave now!". The flame colored Tom,Firestar, moved to sit in front of Breezepelt his eyes shining with wisdom and worry " I know a place where we could go, but we must hurry". Graystripe, Squirrelflight, Thornclaw, Honeyfern, Foxpaw, Icepaw..... Breezepelt squinted his eyes " Did any one see you?" He questioned just to make sure. Firestar nodded " A patrol of Windclan cats are on our territory right now, I think there going to our camp to make refuge and count the remaining cats". At the mention of the cats they left behind, everyone growled " disloyal Crow-food eaters!" One of the Shadowclan cats hissed. Everyone was feeling betrayed, their own clan mates had turned against them. Breezepelt dipped his head " What place do you speak of?". Breezepelt couldn't help it but a little bit of distrust blossomed inside of him. He didn't like the thought of Firestar and his cats leading them somewhere unknown. Firestar sighed " Their is another clan, Skyclan". A yowl rose from the direction of the moor, Morningflower awoke, blinking tiredly. Firestar's hackles rose and

he hissed " Though we must talk on the way".

Sorry if this was so short, but if you want to know more about Skyclan then continue reading!
There's also a super edition on it called Skyclan's Destiny which hold information on the fifth clan too.

Chapter 17

Crowfeathers pov.

Pride and ambition spread through Crowfeather like wildfire. *This is what power feels like*. Striding through the dark forest, he felt giddy with pleasure at telling Tigerstar the news. Coming back to the clearing that Crowfeather had beaten Snowtuft in and sniffed the air looking for a familiar scent. Though know one was there. Crowfeather was about to keep looking when a shrill yowl rose from behind him.

" FOOL!". Claws dug themselves into Crowfeathers back, and weight started to crush down his legs. Crowfeather yelped as he was pinned to the ground. The breath rushed out of him as he struggled to get free from the thing that held him down. " I knew you weren't fit to be leader". It was Mapleshade. Crowfeather winced as she dug her claws deeper. Confusion raced threw him, and he shifted his weight trying to unbalance her, but Mapleshade held fast. " You let them go! Why didn't you kill them when your had the chance?!! Now their going to cause trouble!!". Pain rocketed threw Crowfeather as his ears and back were viciously clawed. Crowfeather bunched his legs and pushed up. The claws released him as Mapleshade flew back.
Scrambling to his paws he backed away as Mapleshade advanced on him. His eyes widened in fear, he cowered, pressing his ears back against his head. Mapleshade lunged. Crowfeather ducked, but Mapleshade was ready. She twisted around and swiped at Crowfeathers head, it hit home. Crowfeather felt his body grow limp as he clattered to the ground. Mapleshade was on top of him again " thought you could deceive me huh?". Crowfeather couldn't move, his body felt numb. Mapleshade smiled wickedly. Crowfeather struggled to breathe " I-I promise I w-will-". Crowfeather faded into darkness. His heartbeat slowed.

When he awoke, Mapleshade was sitting next to him. " You lost a 7 lives, and now your about to lose another one".

Crowfeather spat up blood as Mapleshade slowly and painfully dragged her claws down his stomach.

" Crowfeather wake up!". Crowfeather jumped up,his fur on end. Fear. Anger. Pain. Every muscle was hurting and his neck and stomach throbbed. He didn't understand. He had thought Mapleshade was going to kill him once and for all. Harespring, his loyal deputy, was sitting in the den entrance, his eyes narrowed "the patrol is waiting for your orders". Crowfeather unsheathed his claws and stretched. Mapleshade had killed him, but how many times?. " I'll be down there in a second". Harespring nodded and left.
" You are on you last life". A voice hissed in his ear. Crowfeather growled anger coursing through him. " You will find those cats that you shared your mercy on, and kill them". Crowfeather twitched his ear " and what if I don't?" He inquired. Silence. " then I'll kill you myself". Then she was gone.

Chapter 18

It was a long and hard journey. Breezepelt's patience finally snapped when The ground gave way beneath Ivypool and she tumbled down in a thorn bush. Breezepelt rushed to her side careful not to trip up himself. Breezepelt peered into the bushes and looked into the blazing icy blue eyes of Ivypool.

Pulling her out, Breezepelt felt his last nerve snap when Firestar announced "We're close, we just have to keep going". Breezepelt hissed and clawed his way back up the slope. Pushing past Thunderclan cats, Breezepelt shoved his muzzle into Firestars face. "You've been saying that for the past days Firestar!" He spat.
" How can I trust you about this? A Fifth clan?" Breezepelt snorted and lashed his tail " Nonsense". Firestars nose flared, eyes narrowed " I can a sure you that they are real! We are very close, just a few more paw-" Breezepelt yowled and cut him off " How many more paw steps? Didn't you need the help of some kittypets to find your way here?". Breezepelt didn't wait for an answer. He raised his voice for every cat to hear " We're resting here! Take this time to hunt!". Turning to the apprentices in the group Breezepelt flicked his tail " Olivepaw, Shrewpaw, can you collect some moss?". Foxpaw and Icepaw stood up and looked at him "What do we do?" Foxpaw asked. Breezepelt sat down and gestured towards the Shadowclan apprentices "There going to need some help". Sighing in reluctance they filed into the forest one by one. Firestar stepped up from behind Breezepelt " I'll help them as I know the territory". Breezepelt didn't answer, just turned around to go and find prey. He heard the kits play fighting, while the Elders and the queens plopped down onto the ground, tired. *I'll have to hunt for them to.*

Breezepelt scratched dirt over his freshly caught mouse. Tasting the air he purred in delight as he caught the scent of a squirrel. He was about to go and follow the scent when the bushes behind him started to rustle. Whirling around Breezepelt arched his back and hissed " Whose there?!"
This forest was stuffed with live prey. He wasn't surprised that a

few rogues could live here to. Cats burst from the bushes, startling Breezepelt so bad he shrieked in terror and unsheathed his claws backing away. The cats quickly surrounded him,their eyes cool, claws unsheathed. Breezepelt lashed his tail and growled. *Who are these cats?!* Breezepelt curled his lip as one of them, a dark ginger tom stepped forward " I'd like to ask why you and your friends are on our territory, intruder". Breezepelt hissed " No good rogues! This is no cats territory! Where are the scent marks?". The dark ginger Tom glanced at a young gray tabby she-cat " Go report this to Leafstar. Mintpaw". Breezepelt felt himself freeze, *Mintpaw? Leafstar? no it couldn't be, but who else names there leader Leafstar?*. Breezepelt watched as Mintpaw dipped her head " Yes, Sharpclaw". Then she padded off. Breezepelt shook his head disbelief making him dig his paws into the ground. " Are you..... S-Skyclan?" Heart beating claws tingling Breezepelt stepped forward. Sharpclaw seemed surprised, but that surprise turned to suspicion. " Your friends have been hunting on our territory, *why* are you here? Are you spying on us?". Breezepelt was speechless this is what they've been looking for,these cats are who Firestar said would help us. At the prospect of finding them Breezepelt lashed his tail " do you know a cat that goes by Firestar?". This unsettled Sharpclaw even more. A striking black she-cat gasped and whispered to a white tom. "Harveymoon, isn't Firestar that flame colored cat that made Skyclan... Skyclan?". Harveymoon the white Tom muttered back " Yes, I think so Ebonyclaw". Sharpclaw flicked his tail towards a ginger tom that looked like Firestar " Firepaw, take the rear, everyone else you know what to do". Breezepelt hissed " Where are you taking me?" . Ebonyclaw turned her head to look at him " To our camp".

Chapter 19

Crowstar's pov

Crowstars nerves were on end as he neared the Twoleg place. Mapleshade had informed him that she had last seen them here. Crowstar turned and narrowed his eyes at Owlwhisker. "Don't just sit there! Find the scent!". Nodding Owlwhisker and Leaftail set off, sniffing around the fence that bordered the kittypets from Windclan. Crowstar set off east sniffing at the ground and trying to find openings in the fence.
A voice came from above " Are you one a those weird clan cats?". Crowstar unsheathed his claws and looked up.
A delicate cream colored she-cat with brown on her face and slanted blue eyes stared down at Crowstar in wonder. She a light blue strap around her neck, with a golden price that jangled every time she moved. Crowstar growled " None of your business Kittypet". The she-cat tilted her head in confusion " A Kitty what?". Crowstar hissed and shook his head, *they don't know anything do they?*. All of a sudden, Crowstar felt Mapleshades presence by his side. "Maybe this *kittypet* can help you". Crowstars ear twitched, and he sighed giving in. He forced his gaze to turn soft and his voice to be nice. "Hey, I'm Crowstar". The she-cat mewed and jumped up excited,somehow she still was able to balance on the fence " So you *are* one of those cats eh? My name is Diamond". Crowstar had to force every bone in his body to keep himself from curling his lip. *Diamond*? *What kind of weak name is that?* Crowstar made himself purr gesturing toward the Twolegplace he asked " Have you seen a group of clan cats passing through here, maybe... Yesterday?". Diamond sat down, and looked at the sky, seeming to be thinking. Her gold peice jingled, and just the sound of it made Crowstar cringe. Diamond looked back at Crowstar her eyes brightened " Oh yeah! I did! just last night in fact!". Crowstar waited for more, but the Kittypet just stared at him expectantly. Crowstar breathed a ragged breath *be nice Crowstar just be polite*. " Where?" He asked and Diamond looked at him confused "wat?".

"Where did you see them last idiot!" Crowstar snapped. Diamond jumped back surprised. " I-I saw them near the rogues place, going off to what seemed like some other territory". Crowstar frowned, *where could they possibly be going?*. Diamond pointed her paw deeper into Twoleg place " I-I can take you there if you want". Crowstar snarled " Yes, you will, and you will not say anything, you will not speak and you will not ask questions". Diamonds eyes widened with fear, Crowstar reared onto his paws and placed his front paws on the loose fence shaking it. Diamond yowled and tumbled forward almost crashing into Crowstar. Though he jumped out of the way. Diamond landed face forest in the dirt and landed flat on her back exposing her belly. Crowstar didn't give her time to get up as he dug his claws into her shoulder. Diamond yowled in pain and surprise and she looked at Crowstar fearfully. " Do you understand me?" He hissed.
Diamond nodded vigorously. Crowstar sighed and let her go. Diamond scrambled up onto her paws shaking, Crowstar felt a surge of satisfaction at seeing her fear. "Follow me" Crowstar hissed and swiped his claws down her face, Diamond hissed and jumped back blood running down her face. Crowstar snarled " and keep up". Crowstar led her towards his patrol. They were all gathered near horseplace heads together, murmuring. When they saw him approaching Owlwhisker stepped up from the group " Crowstar we couldn't find anything, may-". Owlwhisker trailed off as he saw the kittypet with blood on her face following behind Crowstar. At the sight of the other cats, Diamond ducked her head and cowered back. Crowstar sighed and looked at Owlwhiskers questioning gaze. " This kittypet said that she saw them heading out at rogue place". Leaftail flicked her tail and nodded staring at Diamond. "Take us there".

They were sitting on a small rocky path. Abandoned Twoleg homes littered the street, and there was an eerie quiet. Crowstar narrowed his eyes at the pawprints that led away from them. They had found the trail. Diamond fidgeted, and she turned to him " Can I go home now?". Crowstar looked at Diamond, this she-cat knew to much. Crowstar unsheathed his claws and stepped towards her " no".

Crowstar flew at her, swiping a powerful blow to her head. Diamond clattered to the ground. Crowstar knew that she couldn't

move, because he had experienced it himself before. Diamond trained her eyes at him, pleading. Crowstar stalked towards her and clawed at her neck. Crowstar didn't stop until her body grew limp. Then he watched as her blue eyes glazed over. Crowstar, breathing heavily turned back to the patrol.

Owlwhisker and Leaftail, stared at the kittypets body and then at Crowstars blood matted fur.
He hissed and arched his back " Stop staring! This-" Crowstar gestured towards Diamonds body. " Is an example of how Tigerclan will work" He raised his voice to be heard " Stay loyal to me and you will have everything". He kicked at Diamonds body with his hind leg
"Betray me and you die".

Owlwhisker and Leaftail solemnly Leaftail lifting her head and chanted
" Crowstar! Crowstar!". Owlwhisker joined in.
Crowstar flicked his tail " let's get home before the sun goes down".

Epilogue

Mapleshade's Pov.

Mapleshade watched with satisfaction as Crowfeather slowly bent into her will. She had him right where she wanted him and as she passed through the thick fog of the dark forest she smiled. Tigerstar was waiting for her, his steely Amber gaze glaring. Mapleshade dipped her head, curling her tail around her paws " It's going just as we planned Tigerstar, when we bring the fifth clan down on there paws, Tigerclan will thrive once more".

The End! There will be a second book so follow me and stay in touch!